

Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/605,394	HOFFMAN ET AL.	
	Examiner Stephen Gravini	Art Unit 3749	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Stephen Gravini (PTO pers). (3) _____.

(2) Mark Hull (appl rep). (4) _____.

Date of Interview: 27 March 2006.

Type: a) Telephonic b) Video Conference
c) Personal [copy given to: 1) applicant 2) applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) Yes e) No.
If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 1-16, 21 and 22.

Identification of prior art discussed: of record.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) was reached. g) was not reached. h) N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an attachment to a signed Office action.

Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Examiner invited election of claims drawn to a complex restriction of apparatus, methods, and subcombinations thereof. It was also discussed that two groups of the restricted claims are considered allowable over the prior art and offered to cancel a potential group of non-elected claims in order to pass the application to issue. The prior art references cited in this application are considered by the examiner to anticipate and/or obviate including double patenting some of the claimed inventions. Applicants' representative submitted a preliminary amendment to the request for continuing application that would allow the application for issue. As such, all pending claims submitted in response to the Office restriction requirement are considered allowable over the prior art.

Customer Number

24024

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:		Examiner:	S. Gravini
Hoffman et al.)	
Serial No.:	10/605,394	Art Unit:	3749
Filed:	September 27, 2003	Confirmation No.:	2392
For:	AIR DRYER MOUNTING ASSEMBLY	Attorney Docket No.:	28679/05100 (02-048US)

SMG 4/17/06

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

It is believed that no fees are associated with the filing and consideration of this amendment, however, should the Commissioner decide that any fee or fee deficiency is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any and all fees incurred as a result of entering this amendment and response to deposit account number 03-0172.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:		Examiner:	S. Gravini	
Hoffman et al.)		
Serial No.:	10/605,394)	Art Unit:	3749
Filed:	September 27, 2003)	Confirmation No.:	2392
For:	AIR DRYER MOUNTING ASSEMBLY)	Attorney Docket No.:	28679/05100 (02-048US)

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT

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Examiner: S. Gravini

Attorney Docket No.: 28679/05100 (02-048 US)

IN THE CLAIMS

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The air dryer ~~mounting~~ assembly of claim [[2]]16, further comprising a means for stabilizing the air dryer and preventing rotation of the air dryer about its central axis.

4. (Currently amended) The air dryer ~~mounting~~ assembly of claim 3, wherein said means for stabilizing the air dryer ~~is~~includes a set of two or more arms protruding from said manifold and a projection extending from a surface of the reservoir, wherein said protrusion rests between said arms and prevents rotation of said air dryer when said air dryer is secured to said reservoir.

5. (Currently amended) The air dryer ~~mounting~~ assembly of claim 3, wherein said means for stabilizing the air dryer ~~is~~includes a bolt received by a threaded member.

6. (Currently amended) The air dryer ~~mounting~~ assembly of claim [[1]]16, wherein said assembly is used in connection with a commercial vehicle air brake system.

7. (Currently amended) The air dryer ~~mounting~~ assembly of claim [[1]]16, wherein said desiccant cartridge contains a set of threads which are used to thread the cartridge onto ~~a set of~~ ~~corresponding threads located on~~ said threaded portion of said manifold.

8. (Currently amended) The air dryer ~~mounting~~ assembly of claim 7, wherein said set of threads and said threaded portion ~~set of corresponding threads~~ are 41 mm.

9-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) A method of drying air in a compressed air system of a vehicle, comprising the steps of:

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Attorney Docket No.: 28679/05100 (02-048 US)

delivering a flow of air to an air dryer manifold with a desiccant bed canister attached to a threaded portion of said manifold;

passing said flow of said air through the desiccant bed, thereby drying the air;

delivering the dried air to a set of downstream components;

purging the desiccant bed with a purge flow from a purge volume to regenerate the desiccant bed; and

exhausting said purge flow after it has passed through said desiccant bed;

wherein said purge flow passes from said purge volume via a bore in said manifold in which a fastener securing said air dryer to the vehicle is inserted through;

wherein said purge flow passes external to said fastener.

16. (Previously presented) An air dryer assembly comprising:

an air dryer including a manifold and desiccant cartridge connected to a threaded portion of said manifold; and

a means for securing said air dryer to an external air reservoir, wherein said external air reservoir includes a purge volume;

wherein means for securing said air dryer includes a means for communicating air between said air dryer and said purge volume and a fastening means disposed within said means for communicating air between said air dryer and said purge volume, said fastening means securing said air dryer to said air reservoir, wherein said air being communicated between said air dryer and said purge volume passes external to said fastening means.

17-22. (Canceled)

23. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein said purge volume is stored in an external reservoir coupled to a rail of the vehicle.

24. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein said rail of said vehicle has a height, and wherein said reservoir includes a mounting bracket for coupling to said rail, said mounting bracket having a height that is less than 50 percent of said rail height.

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Examiner: S. Gravini

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25. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein one or more stabilizing mechanisms interlock to prevent rotation of the air dryer relative to the vehicle.
26. (New) The method of claim 25 wherein said one or more stabilizing mechanisms includes a second fastener received by a threaded member.
27. (New) The air dryer assembly of claim 16 wherein said external reservoir includes a mounting bracket for coupling to a rail of a commercial vehicle.
28. (New) The air dryer assembly of claim 27 wherein said rail of said commercial vehicle has a height, and wherein said mounting bracket includes a height that is less than 50 percent of said rail height.
29. (New) The air dryer assembly of claim 16 wherein said means for communicating air between said air dryer and said purge volume includes a bore in said manifold.
30. (New) The air dryer assembly of claim 29 further comprising a mounting extension, wherein said bore extends through said mounting extension.
31. (New) The air dryer assembly of claim 16 wherein said reservoir includes a purge hole in communication with said means for communicating air between said air dryer and said purge volume.

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REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 1-2, 9-14, and, 17-22 have been canceled. Claims 3-8 have been amended to depend from independent claim 16 and new claims 23-26 and 27-31 have been added to depend from independent claims 16 and 15, respectively. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments, Applicants believe that all of the claims in this case are in condition for allowance and an indication to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 30, 2006

By: Mark R. Hull
Mark R. Hull, Reg. No. 54,753
(216) 622-8419

CALFEE

Facsimile Cover

Date: March 30, 2006
 To: Stephen Gravini, Examiner
 USPTO
 Fax Number: 1.571.273.4875
 Send Only to the Above Fax Number:
 Confirmation Phone Number:

From: Mark R. Hull, Esq.
 Direct Dial Phone Number: 216.622.8419

Client Number: 28679 Matter Number: 05100 Client Name: Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems
 Number of Pages: 6

Message:

Dear Stephen Gravini:

Thank you for the courtesies extended during our telephone conversation on Monday, March 26, 2006. As we discussed, please find accompanying this coversheet, a proposed amendment to be entered as an Examiner's Amendment. The proposed amendment accepts the allowable subject matter (i.e. claims 15 and 16) and cancels the remaining claims, except claims 3-8. By this amendment, claims 3-8 are amended to depend from claim 16. In addition, nine (9) new dependent claims have been added.

We believe that the application is in a condition for allowance. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this amendment, please feel free to contact me at the number below.

Respectfully



Mark R. Hull
 Registration No. 54,753
 (216) 622-8419

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If there is a problem with this transmission, please contact the Fax Department at: 216.622.8426, 216.622.8427, or 216.622.8428. Facsimiles can be received 24 hours per day, 7 days a week at 216.241.0816. Thank You.

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